

BENZIMIDAZOLE: A VERSATILE CHEMICAL ENTITY

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ABSTRACT

Benzimidazole is a heterocyclic aromatic organic compound. This bicyclic compound consists of the fusion of benzene and imidazole. Benzimidazole in an extension of the well elaborated imidazole system has been used as carbon skeleton for N- heterocyclic carbines. A large variety of 2-substituted benzimidazoles have been found to possess antiulcer, antihelminthic anti-inflammatory, antispasmodic, antihistaminic, antimicrobial, anticancer, cyclooxygenase inhibitor, and HIV-1 reverse transcriptase inhibitor activities.

Keywords: Benzimidazole, Antiulcer Agents, Antihelminthic, Anti-inflammatory.

INTRODUCTION

All the heterocyclic compounds have a great interest in pharmaceutical chemistry. Out of these heterocyclic compounds the benzofused heterocyclic compound i.e. Benzimidazole and its derivatives have wide variety of biological activities, in addition to that the Benzimidazole have played a very important role in the development of theory in heterocyclic chemistry and also extensively in organic synthesis.¹

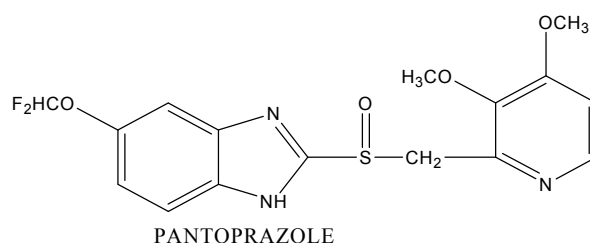
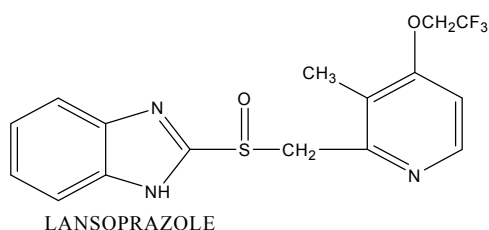
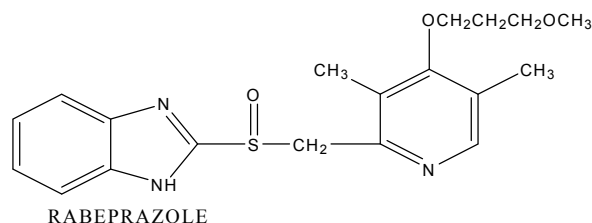
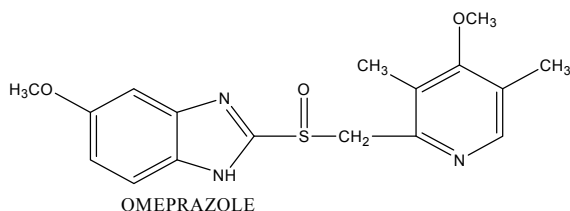
Benzimidazole is an important pharmacophore and privileged structure in medicinal chemistry. Literature survey shows that among the benzimidazole derivatives, 2-substituted ones are found to be pharmacologically more potent and hence the design and synthesis of 2-substituted benzimidazoles are the potential area of research.²

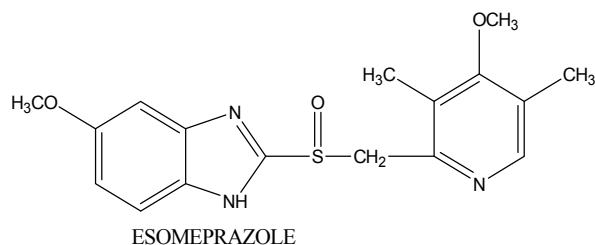
Extensive biochemical and pharmacological studies have confirmed that its derivatives are effective against various strains of microorganisms. The reason for a special interest of researchers toward benzimidazole derivatives has been 5,6 dimethyl benzimidazole which is a constituent of naturally occur ring vitamin B12 .Although vitamin B12 is capable of inducing the growth of bacteria, the benzimidazole component and some of its derivatives repress the bacterial growth. Due to the structural similarity to purine, antibacterial ability of benzimidazoles is explained by their competition with purines resulting in inhibition of the synthesis of bacterial nucleic acids and proteins.²

Benzimidazoles drugs are widely used for prevention and treatment of parasitic infections. Thiabendazole (TBZ) was the first

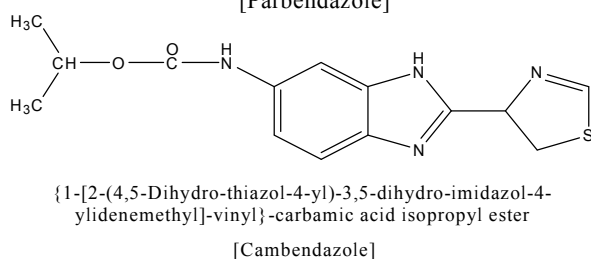
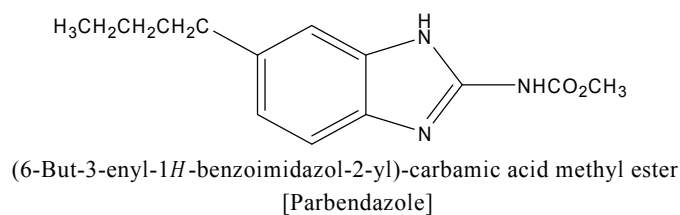
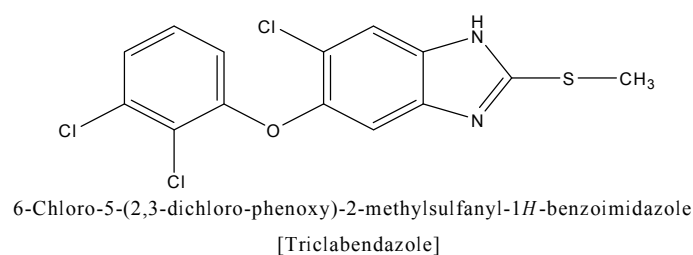
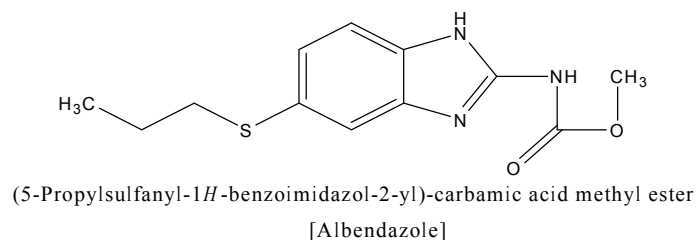
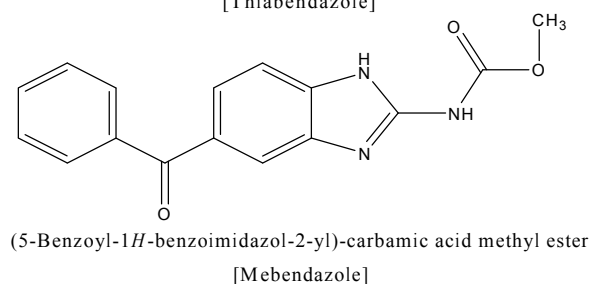
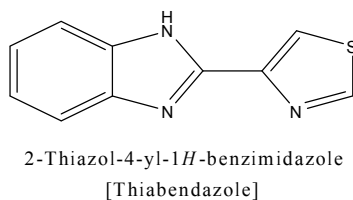
COMPOUNDS HAVING BENZIMIDAZOLE NUCLEUS**As Antiulcer Agents**

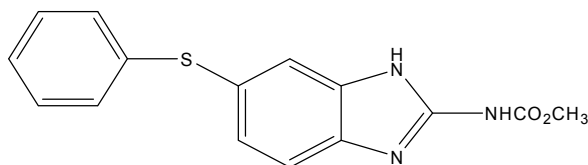
benzimidazole to be marketed over 40 years ago. It has been used widely for control of gastrointestinal nematodes, lungworms and as a fungicidal agent. After its introduction, a number of alternative benzimidazoles offering similar activity came to the market, such as parbendazole (PAR), cambendazole (CAM), mebendazole (MBZ) and oxbendazole (OXI). Benzimidazoles possessing sulphide and sulfoxide functional groups were subsequently introduced, offering a wider spectrum of activity and improved efficacy. Albendazole (ABZ), fenbendazole (FBZ) and oxfendazole (OFZ) were the first such benzimidazoles to be successfully used in the treatment of all growth stages of gastrointestinal nematodes. They may be used also in the treatment of lungworms, tapeworms and adult stages of liver fluke. The benzimidazole, triclabendazole (TCB) was later introduced as an antihelminthic agent for treatment of all stages of liver fluke, but it is ineffective against nematodes. Luxabendazole (LUX) is another benzimidazole-sulphide used in the treatment of food-producing animals but is not licensed for use in the EU. The low solubility of benzimidazole sulphides and sulfoxides leads to their low absorption from the gut, resulting in low bioavailability. Netobimin (NETO) and febantel (FEB), which are the pro-drugs of ABZ and FBZ, respectively, have greater water solubility resulting in improved absorption and increased bioavailability. Similar probenzimidazoles have found widespread use as fungicidal agents, including benomyl (BEN) and thiophanate-methyl (TM), which are precursors of carbendazim (MBC)



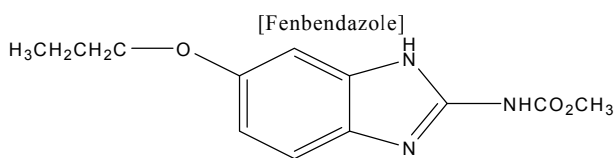


As Anthelmintic Drugs



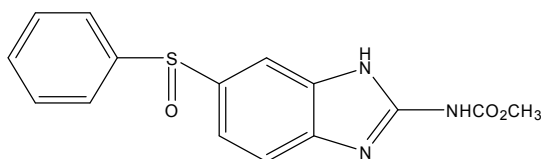


(6-Phenylsulfanyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-carbamic acid methyl ester



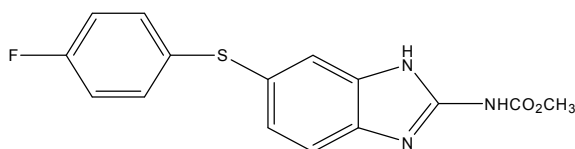
(6-Propoxy-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-carbamic acid methyl ester

[Oxibendazole]



(6-Benzenesulfinyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-carbamic acid methyl ester

[Oxfendazole]



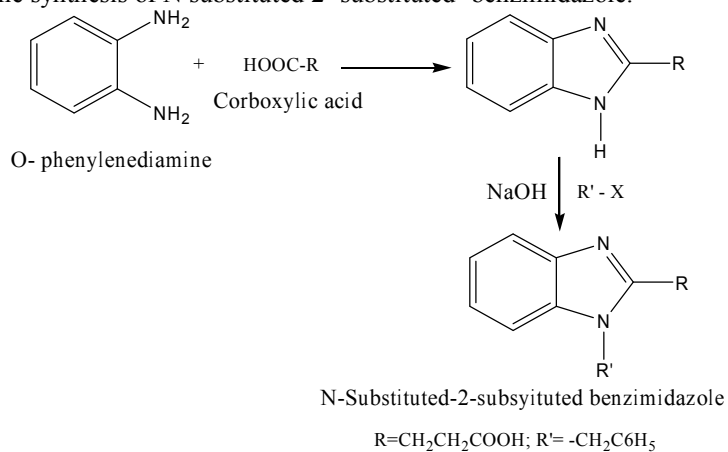
[6-(4-Fluoro-phenylsulfanyl)-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl]-carbamic acid methyl ester

[Luxabendazole]

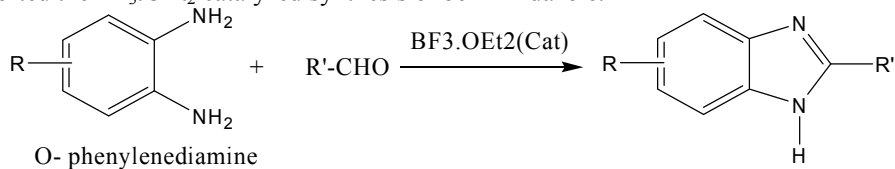
LITERATURE REVIEW

Chemical Review

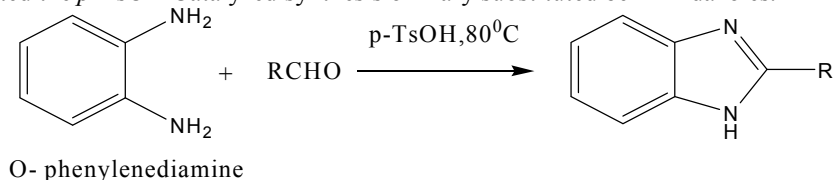
A.K. Tiwari et al. (2005) reported the synthesis of N substituted 2- substituted- benzimidazole. ⁴



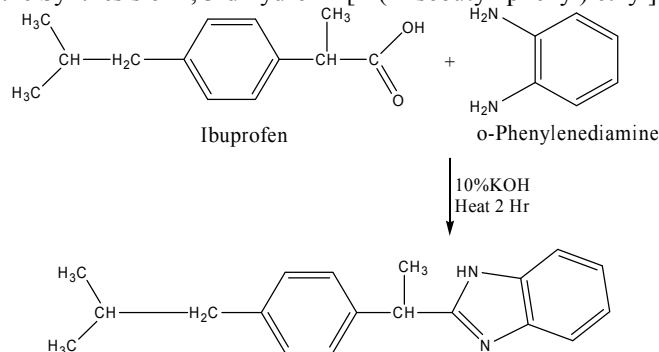
Nagawade et al. (2006) reported the BF₃.OEt₂ catalyzed synthesis of benzimidazole. ⁵



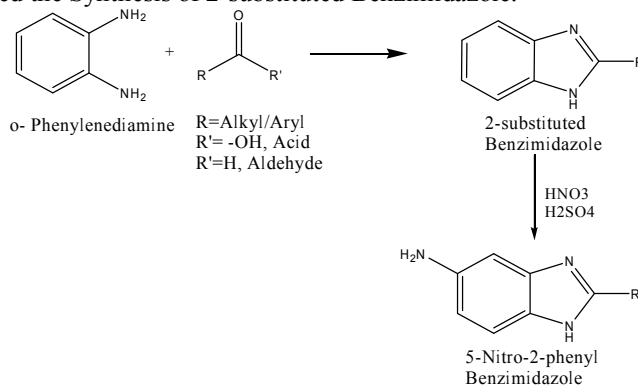
Wang Yulu et al. (2007) reported the p-TsOH Catalyzed synthesis of 2-arylsubstituted benzimidazoles. ⁶



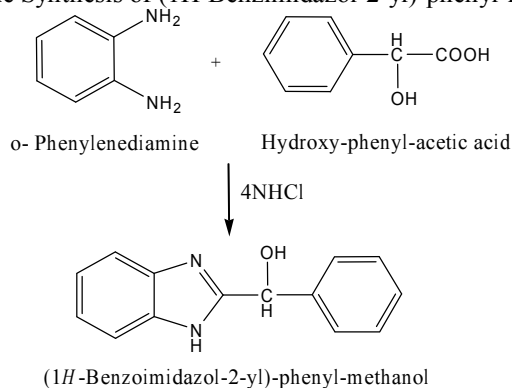
A. Anton Smith et al. (2008) reported the Synthesis of 2, 3-dihydro-2-[1-(4-isobutyl phenyl) ethyl]-1H benzo[d] Imidazole.⁷



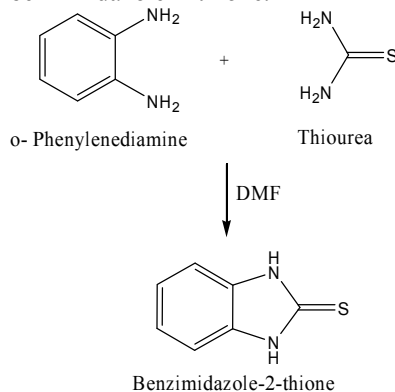
Jat Rakesh Kumar et al. (2006) reported the Synthesis of 2-substituted Benzimidazole.⁸



Mukesh C. Sharma et al. (2010) reported the Synthesis of (1H-Benzimidazol-2-yl)-phenyl-methanol.⁹



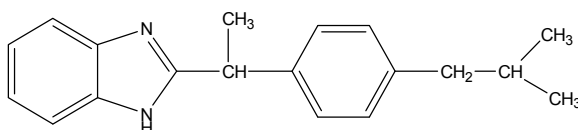
Anoop Singh et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of benzimidazole-2-thione.¹⁰



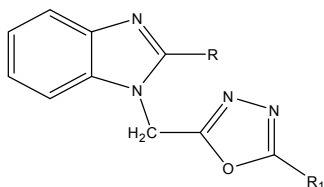
Biological Review

Antimicrobial Activity

A. Anton Smith et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2, 3-dihydro-2-[1-(4-isobutyl-phenyl) ethyl]-1Hbenzo[d] Imidazole was evaluated for its antimicrobial activity against *S. aureus*, *E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa*.⁷

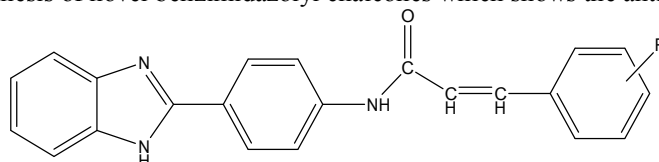


K.F. Ansari et al. (2009) reported the synthesis of benzimidazole derivatives having oxadiazole nucleus which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹¹



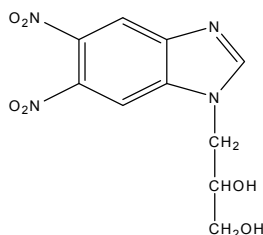
(R=H or CH₃); R₁= -CH₃, -C₂H₅, -CH₂Cl, -CH₂CH₂Cl, -C₆H₅, 2-ClC₆H₄

Mishra et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of novel benzimidazolyl chalcones which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹²

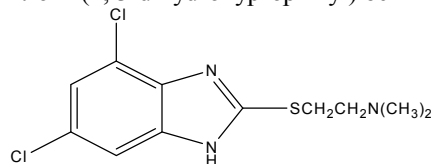


N1-[4-(1H-benzo[d]imidazol-2-yl)phenyl]-(E)-3-phenyl-2propenamide,
(R=C₆H₅)

Mishra et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of nitro and halogeno-substituted benzimidazole derivatives which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹²

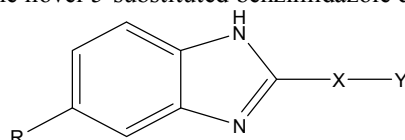


5, 6-Dinitro-1-(2, 3-dihydroxyprop-1-yl) benzimidazole



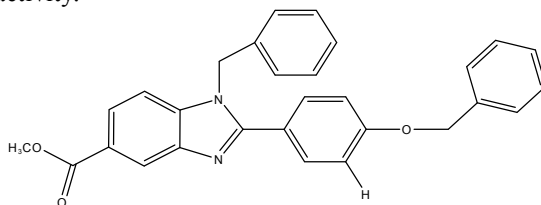
[2-(4,6-Dichloro-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)sulfanyl]-ethyl]-dimethyl-amine

Mishra et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of some novel 5-substituted benzimidazole derivatives which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹²

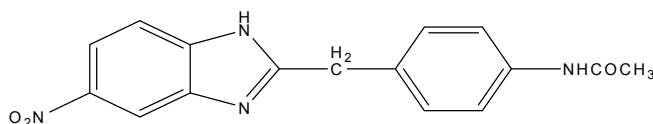


R	X	Y	IUPAC Name
H	-	cyclopentyl	2-Cyclopentyl benzimidazole
Cl	-	cyclopentyl	5-Chloro-2-cyclopentyl benzimidazole
H	CH ₂	cyclopentyl	2-Cyclopentylmethylbenzimidazole
Cl	CH ₂	cyclopentyl	5-Chloro-2-cyclopentylmethyl benzimidazole
H	C ₂ H ₄	cyclopentyl	2-(2 -Cyclopentylethyl) benzimidazole
Cl	C ₂ H ₄	cyclopentyl	5-Chloro-2-(2-cyclopentylethyl) benzimidazole
H	C ₂ H ₄	cyclohexyl	5-Chloro-2-(2-cyclohexylethyl) benzimidazole

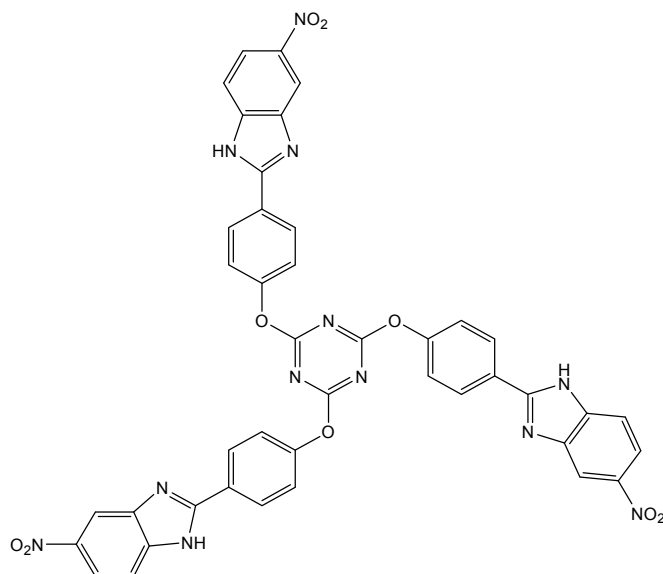
Gulgun Ayhan-Kılıçgil et al. (1999) reported the synthesis of 1-Benzyl-2-(4-benzyloxy-phenyl)-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylic acid methyl ester which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹³



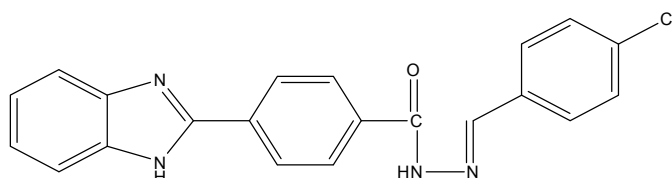
Ismail Yalcın et al. (1998) reported the synthesis of N-[4-(5-Nitro-1H-benzimidazol-2-ylmethyl)-phenyl]-acetamide which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹⁴



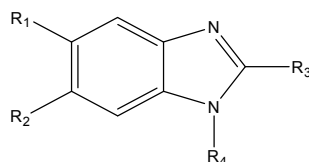
Ziya Erdem Koc et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of tripodal-benzimidazoles which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹⁵



Yusuf Ozkay et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of 4-(1H-Benzimidazol-2-yl)-benzoic acid (4-chloro-benzylidene)-hydrazide which shows the antimicrobial activity.¹⁶

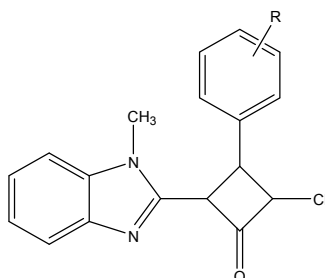


Meral Tuncbilek et al. (2009) reported the synthesis of some novel substituted benzimidazole derivatives having potent activity against MRSA and also showed antifungal activity.¹⁷



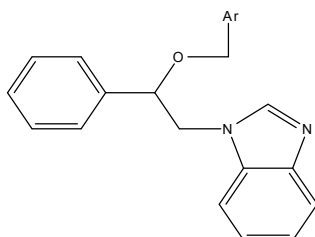
R1	R2	R3	R4	IUPAC Name
Cl	H	H	Cyclopentyl	5-Chloro-1-cyclopentyl-1H-benzimidazole
Cl	Cl	H	Cyclopentyl	5,6-Dichloro-1-cyclopentyl-1H-benzimidazole
Cl	Cl	Cl	Cyclopentyl	2,5,6-Trichloro-1-cyclopentyl-1H-benzimidazole
Cl	Cl	NHCH(CH ₃) ₂	Cyclopentyl	5,6-Dichloro-1-cyclopentyl-2-(isopropylamino)-1H-benzimidazole
Cl	Cl	Br	Cyclopentyl	2-Bromo-5,6-dichloro-1-cyclopentyl-1H-benzimidazole
Cl	Cl	NH ₂	Cyclopentyl	2-Amino-5, 6-dichloro-1-cyclopentyl-1H- benzimidazole
Cl	H	NH ₂	Cyclopentyl	2-Amino-5-chloro-1-cyclopentyl-1H-benzimidazole

Malleshappa Noolvi et al. (2011) reported the synthesis of antimicrobial and cytotoxic activity of novel azetidine-2-one derivatives of 1H-benzimidazole.¹⁸



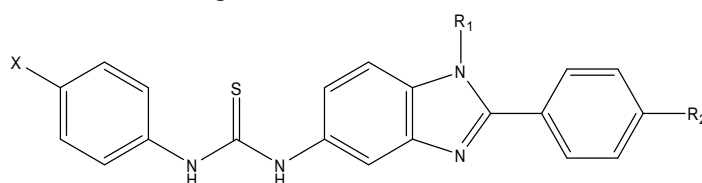
R	IUPAC Name
4-Chloro	3-Chloro-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl) azetidin-2-one
4-Nitro	3-Chloro-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-4-(4-nitrophenyl) azetidin-2-one
2-Nitro	3-Chloro-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-4-(2-nitrophenyl) azetidin-2-one
3-Nitro	3-Chloro-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-4-(3-nitrophenyl) azetidin-2-one
N,N-dimethyl amino	3-Chloro-4-[4-(dimethylamino) phenyl]-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl) azetidin-2-one
2,5-dimethoxy	3-Chloro-4-(2,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl) azetidin-2-one
2-Chloro	3-Chloro-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-1-(1-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl) azetidin-2-one

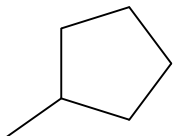
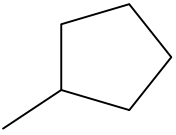
Ozden Ozel Guuven et al. (2011) reported the synthesis and antimicrobial activity of some novel phenyl and benzimidazole substituted benzyl ethers.¹⁹



Ar	IUPAC Name
	1-(2-(Benzyloxy)-2-phenylethyl)-1H-benzimidazole
	1-(2-(4-Fluorobenzyloxy)-2-phenylethyl)-1H-Benzimidazole
	1-(2-(4-Chlorobenzyloxy)-2-phenylethyl)-1H-benzimidazole
	1-(2-(4-Bromobenzyloxy)-2-phenylethyl)-1H-benzimidazole
	1-(2-(4-(Trifluoromethyl)benzyloxy)-2-phenylethyl)-1H-benzimidazole

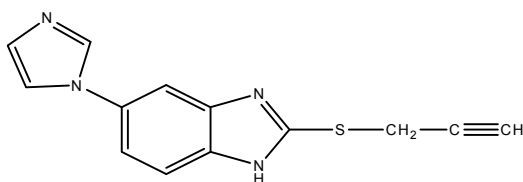
Gulgun Ayhan-Kılıcigil et al. (2006) reported the synthesis of some benzimidazole derivatives and their in vitro antifungal activities were tested against *Candida albicans*, *Candida glabrata* and *Candida krusei*. Compounds possessed activity comparable to fluconazole against *C. albicans* with a minimum inhibitory concentration of 12.5 g/mL.¹³



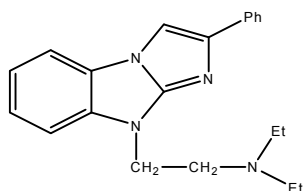
R1	R2	X	IUPAC Name
C3H7	H	H	1-Phenyl-3-(2-phenyl-1-propyl-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl)-thiourea
C3H7	F	Cl	1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-3-[2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-1-propyl-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-thiourea
	F	H	1-[1-Cyclopenta-1,3-dienyl-2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-3-phenyl-thiourea
	F	Cl	1-(4-Chloro-phenyl)-3-[1-cyclopenta-1,3-dienyl-2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-1H-benzimidazol-5-yl]-thiourea

Antiulcer activity

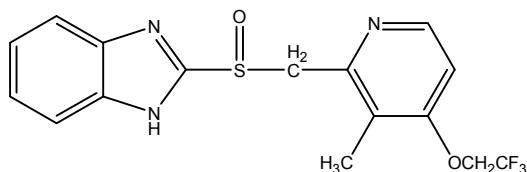
Brumagniez et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2-(thiopropyne) - 5- (imidazole -1-yl.) benzimidazole which exhibited moderate antiulcer activity against ulcer induced by anti inflammatory agents in rats orally. ²⁰



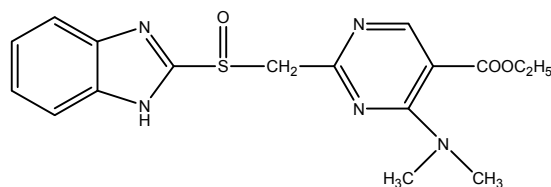
Kovalev et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 9-(diethyl amino ethylene) 2 – phenyl imidazo [1, 2-a] benzimidazole, which was found to be more potent than omeprazole. ²⁰



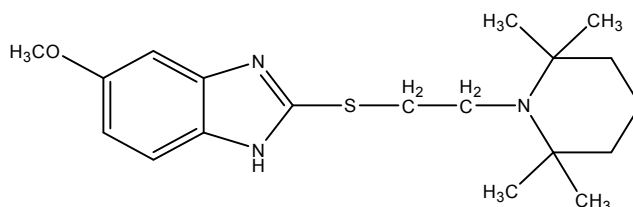
Keiji Kubo et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2-[(3-methyl, 4- trifluoro ethoxy) 2- pyridyl methyl, sulfinyl] benzimidazole which showed antisecretory, antiulcer, cytoprotective activity. After examining the pharmacological and toxicological properties Lansoprazole was selected as a promising antiulcer agent. ²⁰



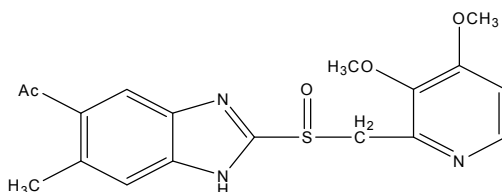
Shimamura et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2-[(4-dimethyl amino, 5 carboxylate 2 pyrimidinyl) methyl sulfinyl] benzimidazole in which the pyridine nucleus of omeprazole is replaced by ethyl 4- dimethyl amino-5- pyrimidine carboxylate showed good antiulcer, gastroprotective and antisecretory activity. ²⁰



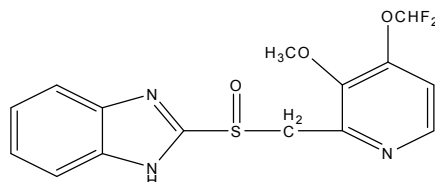
Katano et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2 - [(2, 2, 6, 6 tetramethyl piperidine) ethyl thio] 5- methoxy benzimidazole which showed moderate activity. ²⁰



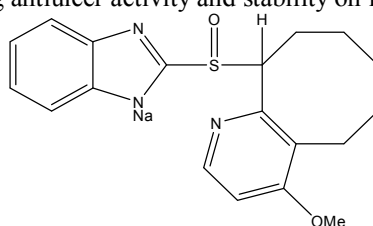
Braendstroem et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2- [(3, 4 dimethoxy, 2 –pyridyl) methyl, sulfinyl] 5- acetyl, 6-methyl benzimidazole which inhibited gastric acid secretion in dogs.²⁰



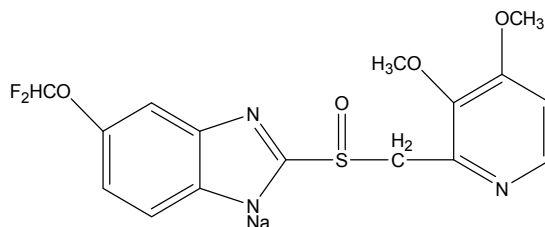
Sohda et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2- [(3-methyl, 4-difluoromethoxy, 2-pyridyl) methyl, sulfinyl] benzimidazole **inhibited** ethanol induced ulcers in rats.²⁰



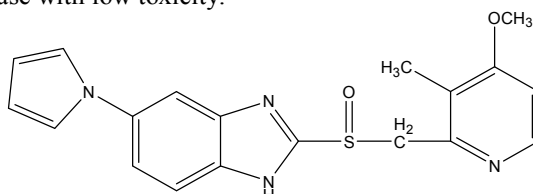
Shin-ichi et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2- [(4- methoxy , 6,7,8,9- tetra hydro- 5H – cyclohepta pyridine –9-yl) sulfinyl] 1-H benzimidazole sodium salt which showed promising antiulcer activity and stability on isolated H^+/K^+ -ATPase of rabbit gastric mucosa.²⁰



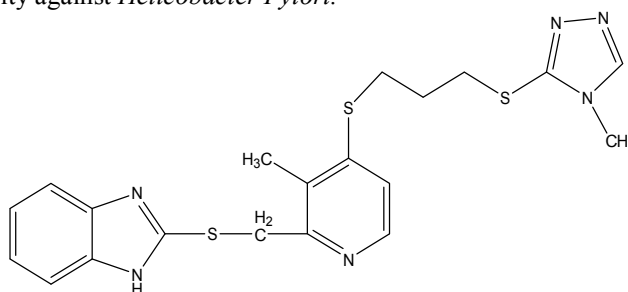
Bernhard et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2-[(difluoro methoxy-2-pyridyl) methyl sulfinyl] 5- difluoromethoxy benzimidazole was highly active against H^+/K^+ -ATPase.²⁰



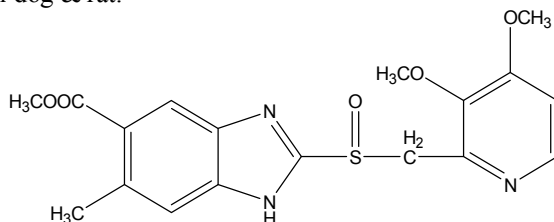
Kim et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2-[(3-methyl, 4-methoxy, 2-pyridyl) methyl, sulfinyl 5- (1- pyrrolyl) benzimidazole which showed moderate activity against H^+/K^+ ATPase with low toxicity.²⁰



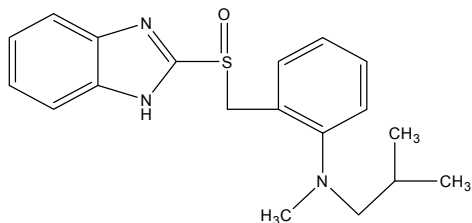
Kohl et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2-[3-methyl, 4 (N-methyl, 1, 2, 4 triazole 3 yl, 1, 3 dithiane) 2 pyridyl] methyl thio benzimidazole which showed high activity against *Helicobacter Pylori*.²⁰



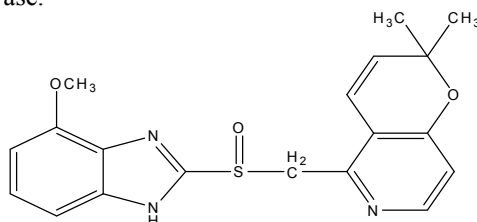
Braendstroem et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of Methyl 2- ((3, 4-dimethoxypyridin-2-yl) methylsulfinyl)-6-methyl-1H-benzimidazole-5-carboxylate which showed high activity in dog & rat.²⁰



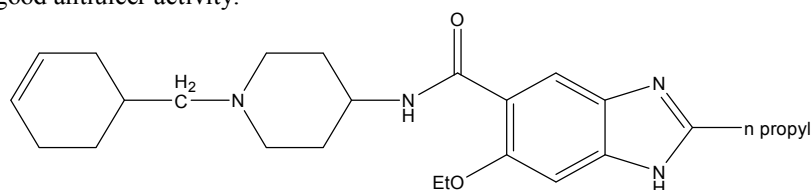
Tsukahara et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2- (1-H benzimidazole 2-sulfinyl methyl) phenyl isobutyl methyl amine which showed good antiulcer activity.²⁰



Yum et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2- [[2,2 dimethyl 2-H pyrrolo (3,2,c) 2- pyridyl] methyl, sulfinyl] 4- methoxy benzimidazole which showed high activity against H⁺ / K⁺ ATPase.²⁰

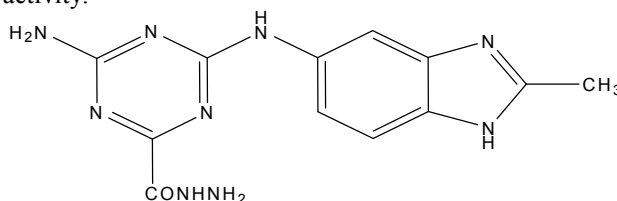


Shrinivasulu et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 2- n propyl, 5 (N methyl 3, 4 cyclo hexane, 4 amino piperidine) keto, 6 ethoxy, benzimidazole which exhibited good antiulcer activity.²⁰

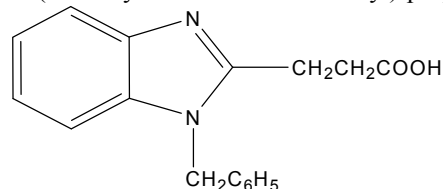


Antiviral Activity

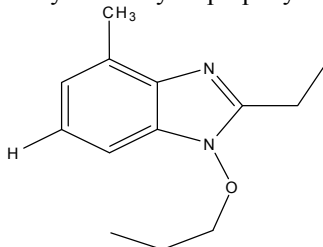
Laila A. Abou-zeid et al. (2008) reported the synthesis of 4-Amino-6-(2-methyl-1H-benzimidazol-5-ylamino)-[1, 3, 5] triazine-2-carboxylic acid hydrazide which shows the antiviral activity.²¹



A.K.Tiwari et al. (2006) reported the synthesis of 3-(1-Benzyl-1H-benzimidazol-2-yl)-propionic acid which shows the antiviral activity.²²

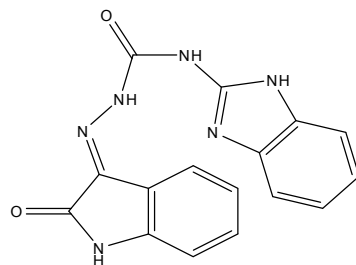


J.M. Gardiner et al. (2006) reported the synthesis of 2-Ethyl-4-methyl-1-propoxy-1H-benzimidazole which shows the antiviral activity.²³

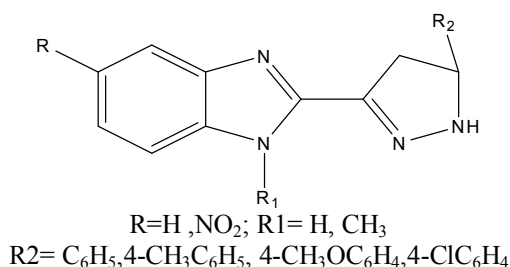


Anti-inflammatory activity

Gummadi et al. (2010) synthesized a series of novel isatinylidene-hydrazinecarboxamide derivatives and evaluated for *in vivo* antiinflammatory activity.²⁴

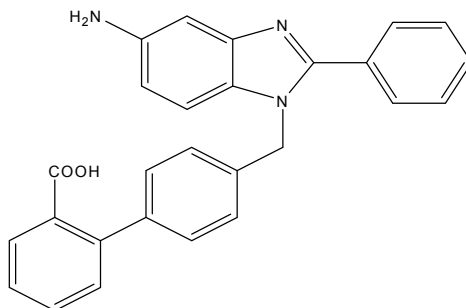


Sawhney et al. (1990) synthesized certain 2-(5-aryl-4, 5-dihydropyrazol-3-yl)- and 2-(2-amino-6-arylpyrimidin-4-yl)benzimidazoles and screened them for antiinflammatory activity.²⁵

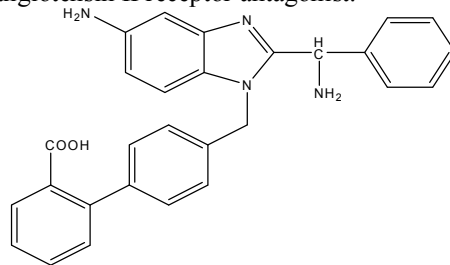


Antihypertensive activity

Jat Rakesh Kumar et al. (2006) reported the synthesis of 4'-(5-Amino-2-phenyl-benzimidazol-1-ylmethyl)-biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid which shows the antihypertensive activity.⁸



Mukesh C. Sharma et al. (2010) reported the synthesis of 4'-[5-Amino-2-(amino-phenyl-methyl)-benzimidazol-1-ylmethyl]-biphenyl-2-carboxylic acid which evaluated for nonpeptide angiotensin II receptor antagonist.²⁶



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